

REMARKS

Although Item 2a of the "Status" paragraph in the Office Action Summary page in the Office Action dated 12/24/03) indicates two check marks, each on the box next the "Final" and "non-Final" status indications, after confirmation with Examiner Huynh, it has been established that this is Non-Final Office Action. Additionally, in the "Conclusion" section of the Office Action dated 12/24/03, no indication of finality was provided. Therefore, in accordance with instructions from Examiner Huynh, this the Office Action mailed on December 24, 2002 is a Non-Final Office Action and Applicants are responding accordingly.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 5,529,831 (*Waga*). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

The subject matter disclosed in *Waga* does not disclose, teach, or suggest all of the elements called for by independent claims 1 and 18 of the present invention. *Waga* is directed to a thin film device that includes a magnetic substrate and spiral coils. The L-C filter provided by *Waga* (see Figure 10) is directed towards eliminating noise in input signals (see col. 8, lines 26-33). However, the circuitry provided by *Waga* does not provide for electro-static discharge (ESD) protection. *Waga* does not disclose a plurality of ESD clamp devices, as called for claims 1 and 18 of the present invention. Merely providing the L-C filter (Figure 10) and a coil (Figure 11) would not teach the plurality of ESD clamp devices having a parasitic capacitance, which is not even mentioned by *Waga*. *Waga* merely provides a thin film equivalent circuit that provides a L-C filter to eliminate noise, it does not provide a plurality of ESD clamp devices having parasitic capacitance (see col. 4, line 64-col 5, line 3; col. 8, lines 27-47). *Waga* does not disclose connecting ESD clamp devices (that have parasitic capacitances) to a corresponding turn

of a plurality of turns of an inductor, as called for by claims of the present invention. Therefore, *Waga* does not teach all of the elements called for by independent claims 1 and 18 of the present invention.

Independent claims 1 and 18 are allowable for at least the reasons cited above. Additionally, claims 2-17 and 19-20, which depend from independent claims 1 and 18, respectively are also allowable for at least the reasons cited above.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,831,331 (*Lee*). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Lee is directed to an inductor having multiple turns disposed one above another in respective metallization layers of an IC. Although *Lee* may teach or suggest a "stacked" coil configuration, *Lee* does not teach or suggest the use of more than one ESD clamp device with the plurality of coils. *Lee* does not disclose the plurality of ESD clamps that have parasitic capacitance, as called for by claims 1 and 18 of the present invention. Therefore, *Lee* does not teach all of the elements called for by independent claims 1 and 18 of the present invention.

Independent claims 1 and 18 are allowable for at least the reasons cited above. Additionally, claims 2-17 and 19-20, which depend from independent claims 1 and 18, respectively are also allowable for at least the reasons cited above.

In the alternative, the Examiner rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over *Lee* in view of *Waga*. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Applicant respectfully assert that one of ordinary skill in the art would not combine the subject matter of *Lee* and *Waga* to obtain the subject matter called for by claims 1 and 18 of the

present invention. *Lee* is directed to an inductive structure for an integrated circuit for providing a self-shielding inductor. In contrast *Waga* is directed to a thin film device that includes a magnetic substrate and spiral coils. Without improper hindsight, one of ordinary skill in the art would not combine *Lee* and *Waga*.

Furthermore, even if *Lee* and *Waga* were combined, all of the elements of claims 1 and 18 would not be taught, disclosed, or suggested by the combination of *Lee* and *Waga*. In contrast to *Lee* and/or *Waga*, claims 1 and 18 call for ESD clamp devices that have parasitic capacitance. Combining the inductive structure of *Lee* with thin film device of *Waga* would not result in the plurality of ESD clamps called for by claims 1 and 18 of the present invention. Neither *Lee* nor *Waga* is directed to electro-static discharge clamps. Merely asserting (see Office Action Dated 12/24/03) that because capacitor by laws of physics, does not validate an assertion that the plurality of ESD clamps that have parasitic capacitance is disclosed by the combination of *Lee* and *Waga*. Combining *Lee* and *Waga* would not produce the ESD clamps having parasitic capacitance and the clamp devices being connected to corresponding turns of an inductor to form a low-pass filter, as called for by claims 1 and 18. Therefore, the combination of *Lee* and *Waga* does not teach all of the elements called for by independent claims 1 and 18 of the present invention.

Independent claims 1 and 18 are allowable for at least the reasons cited above. Additionally, claims 2-17 and 19-20, which depend from independent claims 1 and 18, respectively are also allowable for at least the reasons cited above.

Additionally, Applicant respectfully assert that U. S. Patent No. 5,901,022 (*Ker*) does not provide the plurality of ESD clamp devices being connected to a corresponding one of the

plurality of turns of an inductor in an ESD protection network, as called for by claims 1-20. Examiner fails to provide evidence to the assertion (see Office Action Dated 12/24/03) that shape of coil is unremarkable and that any shape of inductor used with *Ker* may anticipate the present invention. As mentioned above *Kerr* does not provide the plurality of ESD clamp devices that have parasitic capacitance and the devices being connected to a corresponding one of the plurality of turns of an inductor in an ESD protection network, as called for by claims 1-20. Therefore, for at least the reasons cited above, claims 1-20 are allowable.

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

In light of the arguments presented above, Applicants respectfully assert that claims 1-20 are allowable. In light of the arguments presented above, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Houston, Texas telephone number (713) 934-4069 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

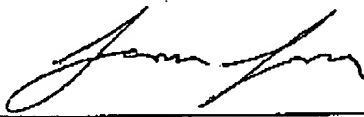
Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 25, 2003



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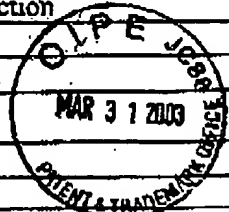
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response to Office Action Dated: 12/24/2002	<input type="checkbox"/> Final Rejection
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Postcard.	
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IDENTIFICATION OF APPLICATION

Serial No.: 09/468,015	
Title: Electrostatic Discharge Protection Network Having Distributed Components	
Applicant(s): Dietmar Eggert, Wolfram Kluge	Attorney: JCJ
Client: Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.	File No.: 2000.065900/DE0005
Mailed: March 24, 2003	Filed: Due Date: March 24, 2003



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No. of Pages:	13	Date:	August 1, 2003
Re:	09/468,015	File:	2000.065900

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August 1, 2003

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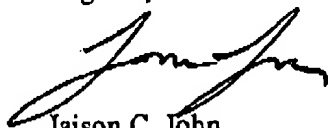
RE: *Serial No. 09/468,015*
U.S. Patent Application Entitled: "ELECTROSTATIC DISCHARGE
PROTECTION NETWORK HAVING DISTRIBUTED COMPONENTS"
Inventor(s): Dietmar Eggert, Wolfram Kluge
Your Reference: DE0005

Dear Examiner Huynh:

Pursuant to our telephone conversation yesterday, July 31, 2003, the Response to the Office mailed by the United States Patent and Trademark Office on December 24, 2002, was mailed on March 24, 2003. I have enclosed a copy of the postcard verifying receipt by the Patent Office on March 31, 2002. I am also enclosing a copy of the response for your file.

I appreciate your telephone call and look forward to working with you on this patent application.

Regards,



Jaison C. John
Registration No. 50,737

JCJ/svh

Enclosure: Stamped Postcard
Response to Office Action